

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 01923 061155Z

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FROM STEIN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EIND, CZ
SUBJ: US PATENT AND LICENSING DELEGATION VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. SUMMARY: DELEGATION CONCLUDED SUCCESSFUL VISIT
JULY 2. IN ADDITION TO FEDERAL MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY,
DELEGATION MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF OFFICE FOR
INVENTIONS AND DISCOVERIES, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
TRADE, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, LEGAL ADVICE BUREAUS,
AND FTO POLYTECHNA, AND VISITED GLASS WORKS AT
NOVY BOR. END SUMMARY.

2. US PATENT AND LICENSING DELEGATION CONCLUDED A
SUCCESSFUL SERIES OF MEETINGS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ON
JULY 2. DELEGATION ARRIVED IN PRAGUE ON JUNE 26 AND WAS
MET AT AIRPORT BY OFFICIAL FROM FEDERAL MINISTRY OF
TECHNOLOGY AND INVESTMENTS (FMTIR) WHICH WAS SPONSORING
ORGANIZATION FOR THE VISIT AND WAS MOST COOPERATIVE IN
ARRANGING DLEGATION PROGRAM. BEFORE OPENING
SESSION MONDAY JUNE 28, DELEGATION WAS BRIEFED AT
EMBASSY BY ECON/COM OFFICERS AND MET WITH AMBASSADOR
BYRNE. FIRST OFFICIAL MEETING WITH FMTIR WHICH
FOLLOWED, COVERED BASIC QUESTION OF RESPONSIBILITY
OF VARIOUS CZECH ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN TECHNOLOGY
POLICY AND LICENSING IN CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN TRADE.
AFTERNOON SESSION WITH OFFICE FOR INVENTIONS AND
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PAGE 02 PRAGUE 01923 061155Z

DISCOVERIES (CZECHOSLOVAK PATENT OFFICE) DEALT WITH

CZECHOSLOVAK PATENT AND TRADEMARK LAW.

3. TUESDAY MORNING SESSION WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (MFT) WAS PERHAPS LEAST SATISFACTORY OF VISIT. ONLY TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF MFT ATTENDED MEETING AND THEY WERE NEITHER WELL-INFORMED NOR PARTICULARLY FORTHCOMING ON OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF MFT FUNCTIONS. MFT DID MAKE THE POINT (LATER REITERATED BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS) THAT CZECHOSLOVAKS ARE NOT REPEAT NOT PUSHING COMPENSATION AGREEMENTS. ALSO, PROSPECTS FOR JOINT VENTURES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA DO NOT APPEAR BRIGHT, THOUGH JOINT VENTURES IN THIRD COUNTRIES WERE ENCOURAGED BY MFT. DELEGATION WAS WELL RECEIVED AT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON. REPRESENTATIVE OF LEGAL DEPARTMENT OF CHAMBER WAS ESPECIALLY HELPFUL IN DISCUSSING QUESTIONS ON CONTRACTS, ARBITRATION, CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN TRADE LAW, ETC.

4. WEDNESDAY MORNING AND AFTERNOON SESSIONS WITH LEGAL ADVICE BUREAUS HELPED CLARIFY PROCEDURES FOR FILING OF PATENT APPLICATIONS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY FOREIGNERS. BUREAUS ACT AS AGENT FOR FOREIGNERS IN SUCH CASES. BUREAUS CAN ALSO BE RETAINED BY FOREIGN COMPANIES TO REPRESENT THEM AS LOCAL COUNSEL IN CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH CZECHOSLOVAK FTOS.

5. DELEGATION VISITED GLASSWORKS AT NOVY BOR (80 KILOMETERS NORTH OF PRAGUE) ON THURSDAY. TOUR OF PLANT, INCLUDING GLASS-BLOWING OPERATION AND FINISHING ROOMS, WAS FOLLOWED BY SHORT MEETING WITH ENTERPRISE MANAGER.

6. FRIDAY MORNING SESSION WITH POLYTECHNA WAS VERY PRODUCTIVE BOTH IN EXPLAINING CZECHOSLOVAK COMMERCIAL LICENSING PRACTICES AND IN CLARIFYING ISSUES LEFT OVER FROM EARLIER MEETINGS. FINAL WRAP-UP SESSION WAS HELD FRIDAY AFTERNOON AT FMTIR.

7. GENERAL IMPRESSIONS: IN VIEW OF BEWT OFFICER WHO PARTICIPATED IN PREVIOUS DELEGATION VISIT TO UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 PRAGUE 01923 061155Z

ROMANIA AND BULGARIA, RECEPTION BY CZECHOSLOVAK ORGANIZATIONS, WITH EXCEPTION OF MFT, WAS ON COMPARABLE LEVEL. (MFT NON-COOPERATION MAY HAVE REFLECTED ITS EARLIER-EXPRESSED DESIRE TO HAVE VISIT PUT OFF UNTIL FALL.) DELEGATION GOT ANSWERS TO MOST OF ITS QUESTIONS AND, THOUGH SUBJECTED TO SOME POINTED BARBS ON TRADE ACT AND EXPORT CONTROL (MUCH MORE SO THAN IN ROMANIA AND

BULGARIA), FELT THAT CZECHOSLOVAK HOSTS WERE
GENERALLY VERY FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE.
BYRNE

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